

*my file*

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL  
RUTHERFORD APPLETON LABORATORY

COMPUTING DIVISION

DISTRIBUTED INTERACTIVE COMPUTING NOTE 693

issued by  
Dr R W Witty

PROGRESS REPORT  
STI COORDINATOR

May - September 1982

5 October 1982

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STI Panel Members

(see other page)

## STI COORDINATOR'S REPORT: MAY-SEPTEMBER 1982

### 1. ALLOCATION OF EFFORT

May )  
June ) 75% Alvey + 25% CBP  
July )  
August)  
  
Sept 50% STI + 50% CBP  
  
Oct 75% STI + 25% CBP

Dr Ken Robinson took over the Common Base Programme on 1 September which has freed up my effort. There are currently no other staff associated with the STI but a recruiting exercise (internal and external) is in progress. Does any Panel member know anyone who would make a good STI Deputy Coordinator?

### 2. STI NEWSLETTER

The first issue of the STI Newsletter is going out about now. This issue is very similar to the DCS Mailshot but with an industrial component to its wide circulation list. I intend to make this rather more of a newsletter and less of a Mailshot if I can get the staff effort.

### 3. CSNET

A meeting is being held at UCL next week between European computer scientists, SERC, NSF and CSNet people to discuss possible collaboration.

### 4. GRANT APPLICANT VISITS

The Coordinator visited Dr Atkinson, Edinburgh and Dr McCullum, UWIST on behalf of CCSC. Dr Standeven of Essex visited RAL.

### 5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

#### 5.1 Town Meeting

The Coordinator spoke about DCS, RCS and STI at the Town Meeting held at Imperial College. 400 university professors and senior staff from all subject areas came to hear about the SERC's computing policy, mainly on the service side. The patchy relations between the Computer Centres and the SERC service were illuminated.

#### 5.2 NAG Users

The goals of the STI programme were presented to the NAG Users Meeting. Good relations are being built up between STI and NAG as NAG have a strong interest in Perq and tools. They are involved in Toolpack (cf Hopkins, Kent).

## 6. RSRE

The senior computing management of RSRE visited their counterparts at RAL. Good links between RSRE and the STI are being formed, especially on specification and verification. Another RSRE visit to RAL is planned for 2 November.

## 7. IBM NEWCASTLE WORKSHOP

The Coordinator and several Panel members attended the IBM sponsored workshop on specification and verification. Several useful contacts were made.

Professor Nakajima offered the UK his Iota system and Dr Wadsworth is investigating the feasibility of importing this system.

## 8. ML AND LCF

There is some interest in getting the Edinburgh work more widely used by putting it on the Perq.

Dr Wadsworth is looking at this, too.

*+ tutorial workshop?*

## 9. CCTA

Two representatives from the CCTA's software engineering for administrative computing section visited the Coordinator. They were very impressed by the Perq and the STI's software tools programme. They confirmed the need for a 'Cobol' tools project.

Remarks in the press about CP/M triumphing over Unix were 'by another bit of CCTA' and is certainly not the view of the software engineering side of CCTA.

## 10. ROY CAMBELL, ILLINOIS

Dr Cambell (ex Newcastle, brain drain) visited the Coordinator at RAL. He is active in the USA USENET community. This is an electronic grapevine for Unix users. Roy is on sabbatical at Newcastle currently and would like the STI to be connected to USENET. The Coordinator is investigating.

## 11. COMPUTER BOARD

The Computer Board has decided to actively back the Common Base Policy. Details of their initiative should be made public soon.

The Coordinator and Dr Robinson were invited to part of a recent Computer Board meeting. Better links between the Computer Board, Computer Centre side of things are being attempted by STI and CBP